

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THE ISOPOD GENUS CASSIDINIDEA FROM MEXICO.

By HARRIET RICHARDSON,

Collaborator, Division of Marine Invertebrates, United States National Museum.

Two specimens, representing a new species of *Cassidinidea*, were collected by Dr. Edward Palmer in 1910, at Maron Lagoon, Madre, Mexico. They were found in oysters taken from salt water.

Family SPHLÆROMIDÆ.

CASSIDINIDEA TUBERCULATA, new species.

Body ovate, twice as long as wide, $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. by 5 mm. Surface smooth except the abdomen, which is covered irregularly with small tubercles. Color white, with numerous arborescent markings of black.

Head wider than long, with the anterior margin widely rounded and produced in a small median point. The eyes are small, round, composite, and placed in the post-lateral angles. The first antennæ have the first and third articles of the peduncle about equal in length, the second somewhat shorter than either of the others. The flagellum is composed of four articles, the last being tipped with hairs. The first antennæ extend just a little beyond the posterior margin of the head. The second antennæ have a flagellum composed of eight articles, the first being twice as long as the second and the last three minute. The second antennæ extend to the middle of the first thoracic segment.

The first segment of the thorax is a little longer than the following six, which are subequal. The lateral margins of the segments are straight. The epimera are not distinct on any of the segments.

The abdomen is composed of two segments, the first of which is short and has suture lines indicating other partly coalesced segments.

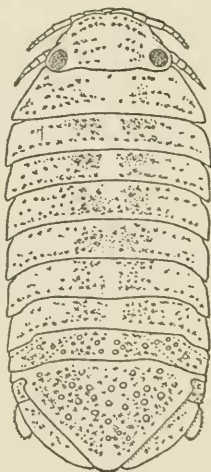


FIG. 1.—CASSIDINIDEA TUBERCULATA. $\times 12$.

The terminal segment is triangular with apex rounded. The dorsal surface of both of these segments is covered with small tubercles. The inner, immovable branch of the uropoda extends to the tip of the terminal abdominal segment; it tapers to a rounded extremity.

The outer branch is one-third the length of the inner branch and is posteriorly rounded. Both branches are furnished with hairs.



FIG. 2.—CASSIDINIDEA TUBERCULATA. MAXILLIPED. $\times 77\frac{1}{2}$.

Two specimens, both females, were collected by Dr. Edward Palmer in 1910, at Maron Lagoon, Madre, Mexico. They were found in oysters in salt water.

The types are in the United States National Museum, Cat. No. 43193.

The two other described species of this genus from the Atlantic coast of North America are *Cassidinidea ovalis* (Say) and *Cassidinidea*

lunifrons (Richardson) from both of which the present species differs in the more rounded apex of the terminal abdominal segment, and in the presence of tubercles on the abdomen. It differs further from *C. lunifrons* in the shape of the head and in the shape and position of the outer branch of the uropoda.



FIG. 3.—CASSIDINIDEA TUBERCULATA. THIRD PLEOPOD. $\times 41$.